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THE INTELLIGENCER.

WHEELING, APRIL 19, 1899.

An Omen of Peace.

A Manila dispatch reports that a committee of Filipinos has been formed to arrange a conference between the Americans and the insurgents for the purpose of effecting peace, or to arrive at some solution of the troubles now existing, on the basis of a liberal autonomy for the Philippine people. It does not appear that the influential Filipinos who are heading this movement are acting on anybody's motion but their own, or that they are in good enough favor with Aguinaldo to accomplish much. Accompanying the statement is the information that some of the men constituting the commission are under sentence of death by order of Aguinaldo for having dared once before to advise him to cease fighting, and for this reason it is not thought that they would care to meet the Filipino leader in person.

While the matter may be regarded skeptically by some, the report, confirms others to the effect that there is a growing feeling among the best classes of Filipinos in favor of cessation of hostilities and a restoration of peace and quiet on some sort of basis. They are tired of fighting for a hopeless cause, and prefer American protection to the hardships and terrors of an insurrection. A Manila dispatch states that there is much of this sort of talk, and at Washington it has been asserted that there are signs of a settlement at no distant day.

It is not at all likely that the American authorities will make any settlement that does not carry with it the full and certain assurance of good faith. This is the main point to be considered.

About "Useless" Conventions.

"What's the use of wasting good trust money holding a Republican national convention this year?" inquires the Register. There is no intention of holding a convention by the national Republicans this year; consequently the Register need not worry itself about the matter until next year. Assuming that our neighbor means next year, its further inquiry is pertinent. It is: "What's the use of holding a convention? How make a platform?" Then our esteemed Democratic neighbor replies, profoundly to itself thus: "Nonsense! Hanna will go to the convention with the platform in his pocket and it won't be changed a bit. It will be a platform to suit Hanna, the trusts, the national bank and Imperial Wall Street." Our informant fails to give anything further in the way of details.

It may occur to some of our observant Democratic readers, who may possibly place great faith in the Register's ability to forecast platforms a year ahead of a convention, that this description of the Republican platform of 1900 is about as lucid and as definite as anything it says concerning the coming Democratic platform of the same year. That is, nothing. Using our neighbor's own method of describing the nature of an opposition platform in advance, we may be permitted to remark that there is no use of holding a Democratic convention—that is, assuming the Register is still loyal to the Chicago Democracy—for Bryan will go there with the platform in his pocket and it won't be changed a bit. It will suit Altgeld, and Jones, the other enemies of sound finance and the country's credit, and the syndicate of mine owners who have, as recently announced, already agreed to contribute unlimited amounts of money, not only toward the agitation of the question in order to set the country by the ears again, as in 1896, but to elect Bryan, if he should be the nominee.

If the Register has forsaken this wing, there will still be no use for a convention, for Croker, the Tammany Chief, who is just now making astonishing admissions on the Mallett witness stand that his organization is in politics for booty and plunder, has entered national politics, and the mighty influence of Tammany and its allies in other sections of the country will be the principal opponents of Bryan. Croker will have a platform in his pocket. It won't suit Wall Street and the millionaire silver mine owners, but it will suit Tammany. The Gold or National Democracy may not be there, for Bryan has already read its members out of the party.

As to the purpose of the Republican party in holding a convention, it is unnecessary to say that it will be to nominate a candidate for President and to adopt a platform which will appeal to the intelligence, the good sense and the patriotism of a great country, which in just now, and will be then, enjoying the greatest prosperity in all its history. The party will be proud enough and confident enough of the intelligence of the people to stand upon this record, which is the reverse of what was predicted by the Democracy, and upon its own record, which will be rounded up with every pledge kept before that convention meets.

cord, which will be rounded up with every pledge kept before that convention meets.

All this will be done while the party of disorganized factions and many isms, led by blind men who cannot read the signs of the times, is wrangling over which is the real representative of Jeffersonianism, and spitting to pieces over platform planks.

Gunnery in Our Navy.

American gunnery won its first fame during the Spanish-American war, as every one posted knew it would, and has been the subject of much comment in naval circles in Europe ever since the wonderful performances of the fleets at Manila and Santiago. The accuracy of aim shown in the marksmanship of the United States navy was paid an eloquent tribute by an eminent British authority recently, who admitted that the gunnery of the Americans was better than that of the British. In both the great naval engagements of the Spanish-American war the performance of our gunners was regarded as marvelous, when described in the newspaper reports, but the official records of the marksmanship of the ships engaged show even better for the men who stood behind the guns than the hurried press accounts of those days.

The exploit of the Dewey fleet at Manila a year ago, according to the detailed report received by the navy department at Washington, was the most remarkable exhibition of marksmanship, though, it should be remembered, the conditions were more favorable there than at Santiago, where our men were firing at ships moving rapidly, while at Manila the Spanish vessels were not moving. The report of the Manila marksmanship has but recently been received at Washington, and is based on both Spanish and American testimony to the effect that the ships of the Dons were literally riddled with shells. One hundred and forty-one shots during that fight struck their mark, and all the world knows the result. That result, according to the record of the fight, was due to the method adopted—the fire from the American guns was poured into the Spanish fleet with deadly fury. Dewey reasoning that a courageous dash and quick firing was the most effective manner of assaulting the enemy.

As intimated above no comparison is to be made between Santiago and Manila as to marksmanship, on account of the difference in conditions. At Santiago the gunnery in general was regarded as magnificent on account of the rare circumstances. The American gunners were not only firing at moving ships, but were firing from ships going at high speed. It was a race for life or death and the Americans won.

The point of the whole matter is one which is a source of national pride to every American—it is, and is admitted by foreign authorities, that in the American navy the matters of discipline and efficiency are of especial concern. No navy in the world has a better system in these respects. It is said of American vessels that wherever they are, on whatever sea, the system which prevails on board is to the credit of the country. American seamen are the best trained, and in time of peace are always ready for service. The personnel of our crews will compare with that of the most powerful navy in the world.

The members of the Audubon Society, of New York, have issued a stirring appeal to the women to join in the movement to abolish the fashion of wearing birds and feathers on the feminine headgear. In the interest of the preservation of the song birds. The petition of the New York women declares that millions of birds are being annually slaughtered to supply the demands, and calls attention to the fact that the movement cannot be a success without the aid of the women themselves. The sale of the birds and their slaughter will continue so long as the market is profitable, and that will be true so long as they are popular as headgear decorations.

An unlooked for trouble has come to Col. Bryan as one of the results of the dollar dinner. News of numerous criticisms in the south because two colored men sat at the banquet table with Col. Bryan is published. The two men were warm supporters of Bryan, but that doesn't seem to make any difference with the critics. Col. Bryan didn't seem to know of their presence, but if he did know of it, he surely didn't expect so much unreasonable action on the part of his southern supporters. Col. Bryan, on being questioned as to whether he would go to a banquet knowing colored men were to be there, refused to reply until he "was confronted with such a condition," but those critics may not be satisfied with so evasive a reply.

The United States supreme court has decided that a Michigan state law providing that thousand mile railroad tickets shall be good for two years and sold at reduced rates is valid. The Michiganers will now proceed in safety to buy practically unlimited thousand mile tickets. Michigan is Pike's state and Pingree is himself notable for his fights for fares. That is one of the ways he has of making himself popular.

In a newspaper interview ex-Congressman Jerry Simpson declares that the ambition to be a congressman ruins many a young man who otherwise would be of service to humanity and to his country. Jerry ought to know; his congressional career was born of an ambition to save his country, and many people agreed that a good farmer was spoiled when he yielded to it. He is now in retirement, and likely to remain there in the quiet of his Kansas ranch.

The resignation of City Clerk Charles H. Watkins, almost at the beginning of the new term, was a great surprise to his many friends and to the public. During his career in connection with the clerk's office, as deputy and as clerk, Mr. Watkins has won the esteem of the



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public, his personal popularity and his efficiency being proven by the large votes he has received at the polls for the office of clerk. In his retirement from public service to engage in private business, he will be followed by the good wishes of the public he has so well served.

An evening paper, in referring to Judge Jackson's remarks in sentencing the injunction violators yesterday, quoted him as saying that "Labor organizations are communistic clubs." Judge Jackson did not so characterize labor unions. He expressed his views concerning their rights, but did not describe them in the manner indicated above. The full text of his statement is published elsewhere.

INJURIES TO A STATE.

Facts That Call Attention to Destructive Tendency in State Legislation.

St. Louis Globe-Democrat: Several things have happened recently that direct public attention to a dangerous and destructive tendency in state legislation. In dealing with the subject of oppressive monopolies the mistake is made of warring against all business development in the larger sense, and against the economic advances that have been going on in commerce and trade all through history. Legislatures that rush in these blind raids upon proper and necessary business organizations hit upon a quick plan to paralyze industry in their states and drive prosperity beyond their borders. Modern business is a complex fabric, and new laws that derange it in one department may throw it all out of balance. This has happened in Arkansas. The active men of the state, representatives of the state board of trade and of the people at large, have met in the largest business meeting ever held in Arkansas to protest against a new law, which, in the language of the resolutions passed, threatens to "lead to the most widespread panic and depression the state has ever witnessed." The situation is pronounced alarming, and with good reasons.

Not long ago the Arkansas legislature passed a crude and hasty law aimed at a convenience to the first practical effect is to strike down the whole insurance system of the state. The law has been construed to exclude all insurance companies that belong to an underwriters' board or rating bureau in any other state. The legislature may not have intended to crush the existing insurance system and throw business into chaos, but such is the first result. Insurance is a form of capital. It replaces capital lost by fire, and broadens individual credit. The best procurable terms in insurance are no longer open to a citizen in Arkansas. A widely diffused business is driven away, and those engaged in it deprived of work that was beneficial to all. The breach of Arkansas is part throughout the Union, its values decreased and its general reputation for business opportunities damaged. Outside capital, fearing hostile laws, will pass over the natural resources of the state. The resolutions adopted declare that the law has already destroyed property, reduced worthy citizens to beggary, cut down credit, curtailed the operations of business men and placed insurance upon an irresponsible basis.

In a growing country the methods and facilities in conducting business must grow with it. A business organized on a large scale is not necessarily a monopoly. It is often the reverse, a convenience to the masses and money in their pockets. The general excitement in Arkansas shows how much destruction can be wrought by an ill-advised law conceived in the spirit of the demagogue who denounces business organizations as a tyranny and all forms of wealth as a crime. Texas has injured its standing by laws of a similar nature. The legislature of Missouri shows strong signs of the taint. The same tendency to meddle ignorantly and vindictively with legitimate business is noticed at Jefferson City.

A Remarkable Situation.

The appointment of the Duke of Arcos as Spanish minister makes a most remarkable chapter in the history of the war. His wife is a beautiful American, who was wooed in vain by Admiral George Dewey. Washington is thinking of the strange situations that may arise when Dewey returns to this country the lon of the hour and meets the Duchess. There is no doubt that the revenge he got at Manila has removed every trace of ill feeling he may have had against the Duke, but what will be his attitude toward the bride and hers toward him?

His Life was Saved.

Mr. J. E. Lilly, a prominent citizen of Hannibal, Mo., lately had a wonderful deliverance from a frightful death. In telling of it he says: "I was taken with typhoid fever, that ran into pneumonia. My lungs became hardened. I was so weak I couldn't even sit up in bed. Nothing helped me. I expected to soon die of consumption, when I heard of Dr. King's New Discovery. One bottle gave great relief. I continued to use it, and now am well and strong. I can't say too much in its praise." This marvelous medicine is the surest and quickest cure in the world for all throat and lung trouble. Regular sizes 50c and \$1.00. Trial bottles free at Logan Drug Co.'s drug store; every bottle guaranteed.

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A man has no opposition when he begins to make love to himself.

A good memory is less desirable than the forgetfulness of injuries.

The less important a man really is the more important he thinks he is.

Satan probably originated the saying: "Man wants little here below."

A widow knows when a man is in love with her long before he knows it himself.

There's something wrong with your religion if your servants are not the better for it.

Pretending to know the things you should know, but don't, occasionally answers the same purpose.

It doesn't matter how often some people change their minds they never succeed in getting a good one.

If a man flirts with a girl, and she falls in love with him he thinks her silly; if she doesn't he thinks her conceited.

When a man wakes up with a dark-brown taste in his mouth after painting the town red the night before, he is apt to feel rather blue—Chicago Daily News.

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